

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260780

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE ROBIN PORTER'S QUERY ABOUT VLADIMIR SAMBAIEW, NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON DOCTORS DETERMINED A POTENTIALLY SERIOUS EYE PROBLEM WHICH NEEDS TO BE TREATED AT SOME POINT. DEPARTMENT MEDICAL PEOPLE HAVE SAID HE SHOULD NOT RETURN TO POST UNTIL TREATMENT IS COMPLETED AND IT LOOKS AS IF HE WILL HAVE TO STAY IN WASHINGTON UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR. WE WILL MAKE USE OF HIM IN BILATERAL WHICH SHOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE BENEFIT TO HIM AND KAP WHEN HE IS ABLE TO RETURN. YOU SHOULD BE GETTING REGULAR MESSAGE ON THIS SOON. WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

2. RE YOUR COMMENTS IN O-I MOSCOW 15693 ON TRAVEL PROBLEMS UNDER THE OCEANS AGREEMENT, WE HAD EARLIER EMPHASIZED TO NOAA THAT SUCH NEEDLESS CANCELLATIONS COULD BE AVOIDED BY
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ADVANCE PLANNING AND COORDINATION THROUGH US AND THE EMBASSY. IN THE LATEST CASE, THE SECRETARIAT AT NOAA ITSELF DID NOT KNOW OF THE MATTER UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. NOAA IS SENDING OUT A REQUEST TO PROJECT LEADERS FOR ADVANCE NOTICE IN THE FUTURE. THE TELEX LINK AS BEST WE CAN TELL HAS PLAYED NO ROLE IN THESE MATTERS; THE PROBLEMS AROSE FROM DIRECT CON-

TACTS BETWEEN COUNTERPARTS AT THE PROJECT LEVEL. ALSO, WE ARE POUCHING THE MISSING MARCH JCM REPORT--IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN OUT TO YOU LAST JUNE AND APPARENTLY GOT LOST BECAUSE OF PERSONNEL CHANGES EITHER IN EUR/SOV OR THE EMBASSY, NOT BY FAULT OF NOAA.

3. RE THE 21-DAY TRANSIT CASES: WHAT WE HAVE TOLD THE SOVIET EMBASSY IS THAT YOU ARE UNDER STANDING INSTRUCTIONS TO HOLD ALL TRANSIT CASES FOR 21 DAYS, ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES THE PROCESSING IS COMPLETED AND THE AUTHORIZATIONS ARE SENT BEFORE THE 21 DAYS HAVE ELAPSED. THE SOVIET EMBASSY IS NOW COMPLAINING ABOUT THREE TRANSIT-TO-VENEZUELA CASES THEY CLAIM YOU HAD FOR MORE THAN 21 DAYS--13 PERSONS LED BY VALENTIN; 7 PERSONS LED BY GAVRICHEV; AND 7 PERSONS LED BY BOGDANOV. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT YOU DO NOT HAVE ANY PENDING TRANSIT CASES WHICH YOU RECEIVED OVER 21 DAYS AGO, AND WE WILL SO INFORM THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

4. WE HAVE APPROVED AN APPLICATION FOR UNCHAUFFED TRAVEL BY MINI-BUS OF FOUR AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION PERSONNEL FROM NEW YORK TO ATTEND THE SOVIET EXHIBITION IN LOS ANGELES AND RETURN. YOU MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO REFER TO THIS APPROVAL IN SUPPORT OF REQUESTS FOR U.S. BUSINESS TRAVEL OUTSIDE MOSCOW.

5. FOR THE AMBASSADOR:
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A. SORRY FOR COINCIDENCE IN TIMING OF TODAY'S SESSION WITH TOLYA. IMPOSSIBLE TO GET OUT A FULL REPORT TONIGHT. AS OF THIS WRITING, WE DON'T KNOW IF YOUR MEETING THERE WAS FIRMED UP FOR TODAY.

B. WE ARE THIS EVENING PUTTING NATIONAL DAY MESSAGE UP TO THE HIGH LEVEL. EARLY INDICATIONS ARE THAT SIXTIETH WILL NEED TO BE MENTIONED. WE HAVE TRIED TO CONSTRUCT IT ARTFULLY AND ARE MAKING SURE YOUR VIEWS ARE KNOWN. VANCE

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